

2021-2022

# PROJECT REVIEW AND OBJECTIVES



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**PREPARED BY**

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DIRECTORS



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# ABOUT GREEN HEROES ENVIRONMENTAL ORGANISATION



## SAVING THE WORLD BEFORE BEDTIME

Our vision for 2021 and always is to involve the whole community in empowering children to become environmental custodians as they grow into confident contributors to society. Through our programs, children and young people learn that to co-exist with nature is both a privilege and a responsibility. They are equipped with a deep understanding of their inter-connection with all living things, developing a strong sense of belonging and purpose in their own lives, their community and their environment.

The Green Heroes mission includes fighting social exclusion by providing opportunities for all community members, to become involved in raising the next generation of conservationists. We actively engage people of all ages in supporting wildlife rescue and conservation groups through awareness and fund-raising campaigns. We value collaboration with individuals and other organisations that share our ethics and purpose.

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# 2020 IN REVIEW

Although each year the organisation has experienced rapid growth, 2020 was the biggest year for the expansion of Green Heroes projects since its conception and launch in 2016. New partnerships and collaborations have fuelled project visions and enabled the delivery of community empowered wildlife conservation projects. We thank all members of the community, partners and sponsors for making the Green Heroes vision a reality.







# OUR SCOPE OF WORK

## IN BRIEF

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Green Heroes projects are currently targeted at children between the ages of 3-18, however all community members are encouraged to participate in program development, flora and fauna monitoring and mentoring. We work with teachers, environmental scientists, Indigenous landcare groups, nature play experts, wildlife carers, sewing groups, woodwork groups, ethical arborists and children themselves. By collaborating with the whole community, we develop interactive ways in which children can build on their experience with nature and convert their experience into environmental stewardship. Green Heroes is a bridge between teachers, parents, children, community members and the conservation projects needing attention and action. Projects are designed and implemented to enable these parties to be involved in meaningful participation and the support of many threatened species.

Green Heroes regularly collaborates with and supports wildlife rescue and conservation organisations such as Australian Seabird Rescue, Save the Bilby Fund, Wildcare, WIRES, The Animal Rescue Collective and Currumbin Wildlife Hospital, and the Gold City Councils Naturally GC program, to deliver programs that are both impactful and empowering to children.

# POUCHES FOR JOEYS WORKSHOPS



In response to the need to support wildlife carers in the wake of the Black Summer Bushfires, Green Heroes received a grant from the QLD Communities Environment Program. The Grant enabled Green Heroes to host weekly sewing bees at Green Heroes HQ. Women and children from the local community gathered to sew pouches for injured and orphaned joeys that were then distributed by Green Heroes to wildlife shelters in need of these. Approximately 4,000 pouches were made and distributed via this project in early 2020.



**Australian Government**  
**Department of Agriculture,  
Water and the Environment**





# WILDLIFE ADOPTION PROGRAM



MATT BARWICK FILMS

**LUSH** FRESH  
HANDMADE  
COSMETICS

Wildlife carers need support to care for our orphaned native animal joeys. By participating in the Green Heroes Wildlife Adoption Program a class (community group or individual) is linked to an orphaned joey and a wildlife group/shelter. Green Heroes supports wildlife in drought/bushfire-affected areas and endangered species. The Program gives priority to small Wildlife shelters that rely on the goodwill of the community for support to continue rescuing, rehabilitating and releasing native wildlife. The Green Heroes Wildlife Adoption Program is managed by retired Early Years Educator Lee Ann Grohn who delivers photo and video updates to classrooms and manages correspondence between children and wildlife carers. It is with thanks to the team at LUSH that Charlie was able to create a short film to launch and promote this program.

## YOUTH CONSERVATION AWARD

The youngest member of our team, Charlie Cairncross was awarded the Youth Conservation Award by the Australian Wildlife Society on March 3, 2021 at NSW Parliament House. Charlie was the founding force behind the Wildlife Adoption Program after he volunteered alongside his family during the Black Summer bushfires in 2019/2020. The program engaged over 170 schools and preschools in 2020 who chose to sponsor an orphaned native animal and helped raised over \$13,000 for much needed food and medical supplies for small wildlife shelters.



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# WILD DEFENDERS PROGRAM



CITY OF  
**GOLDCOAST.**

The NaturallyGC Junior Wild Defenders Program has been developed by Green Heroes and Gold Coast City Council's NaturallyGC team. The aim of this free resource is to engage children with the natural world and to empower them to take action to preserve our incredible local native flora and fauna.

There are 12 engaging and interactive activity booklets, each with a specially designed reward badge. The booklets include several challenges and tasks to prompt child-led exploration of a nature or conservation-based topic. The tasks include on-ground action, drawing, design, art, building, photography, quizzes and getting crafty.



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# WILDLIFE RESCUE 101 FILM SERIES

Green Heroes is excited to have directed this wildlife conservation-themed short film series in collaboration with Animal Rescue Cooperative (ARC), WIRES, Currumbin Wildlife Hospital and Matt Barwick Films. We are grateful to the wonderful people from wildlife rescue and conservation organisations who have given their time, expertise and support to this project. Special thanks to Bats Qld, Habi-Tec, Regen Australia, Reptile Rehabilitation Qld, Tweed Valley Wildlife Carers, Wildcare Australia, Wild Rangers and to our sponsors, Bendigo Community Bank, Tugun and Rotary Club of Currumbin Coolangatta Tweed.



## **EPISODE 1 - BASIC WILDLIFE RESCUE**

In this introductory episode, Green Heroes Founder Sarah Jantos and Junior Wild Defender Flynn Cairncross demonstrate how to prepare for and initiate a wildlife rescue.



## **EPISODE 2 - HELPING NATIVE BIRDS**

Green Heroes Youth Ambassador Ruby Jay explains when and how to help native birds, which account for the majority of wildlife rescues in Australia.



## **EPISODE 3 - BRILLIANT BATS**

Bats Qld Vice President Ashley Fraser discusses why flying foxes and microbats are so important to the ecosystem, and how we can all help to conserve and protect them.



## **EPISODE 4 - LIVING WITH KOALAS**

Jasmine Rasmussen and Sam Longman from Wildcare Australia explain how the community can work together to protect one of Australia's most iconic species.





#### EPISODE 5 - REMARKABLE REPTILES

Josh Noonan from Reptile Rehabilitation Queensland introduces some of Australia's incredible native reptiles and explains what to do if you encounter one in the wild.



#### EPISODE 6 - FISHING LINES, HOOKS AND OTHER DEBRIS

Jasmine Pereira and Michael Pyne from the veterinary team at Currumbin Wildlife Hospital discuss how the community can help to protect birds living on or near water.



#### EPISODE 7 - PRECIOUS POSSUMS

Green Heroes Youth Ambassador Noah Jay explains how we can help our backyard possums and follows the story of a common brushtail recovering from dermatitis.



#### EPISODE 8 - WILDLIFE CARERS - COMING SOON!

This film will feature interviews with some of the dedicated individuals who rescue, rehabilitate and release native wildlife, including some of our threatened species.



#### EPISODE 9 - POUCH RESCUES - COMING SOON!

This film will explain what to do if you find a deceased female kangaroo, wallaby or other marsupial mammal with a live joey in its pouch.



#### EPISODE 10 - HABITAT GARDENS - COMING SOON!

We can all help native wildlife by creating habitat in our backyards, school grounds or even on a small balcony or deck.



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# SHARING PLANET EARTH



Sharing Planet Earth is an **early years journey towards environmental awareness and action**. This program was originally launched in 2019 with a generous grant from LUSH and has continued to experience rapid uptake amongst Early Learning Centres across Australia. The handmade resources and games enabled educators to begin immediate roll out of the program that engaged young children in taking action for the planet. With special thanks to Tugun Community Bank the program and resources were also donated to 5 local early learning centres on the Southern Gold Coast. The program will return in 2021. The team are currently working with the Animal Rescue Cooperative on making this program more widely available as a free resource online.





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# SHARING PLANET EARTH & CARING FOR COUNTRY



In 2021, in collaboration with the Animal Rescue Cooperative and Banaam Applied Cultural Intelligence, Green Heroes will relaunch the Sharing Planet Earth Program online as a resource available to Early Years Education Centres and Primary Schools Across Australia. The program will include activity cards for habitat creation and supporting wildlife within the community. The theme of Caring for Country will be central in helping educators meet the cross curriculum priorities of Sustainability and Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Histories and Cultures.



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# SWELL SCULPTURE FESTIVAL 2021

**Currently seeking sponsorship**



We cut down trees for our own financial gain, peace of mind or convenience. The need to stop and think about the reason for this action is more important and urgent than ever. Can we preserve or replace what we intend to cut down? Have we looked closer and discovered who inhabits the trees and hollows? Habitat loss comes at a huge cost to animals, ecosystems and environment. In this universe everything is connected. We welcome artist and sculptor Suzi Lucas to our Green Heroes team in 2021. Our first major arts project "Hollow by Nature" will exhibit at the Swell Sculpture festival on Currumbin Beach in September.



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# HERON ISLAND RESORT JUNIOR RANGERS



Together with the activities team at Heron Island, Green Heroes will upgrade the current Junior Rangers program on offer at the island. The new program is currently under construction and will be available very soon!



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# TWEED HOLIDAY PARKS KINGSCLIFF



North coast holiday parks in Kingscliff are committed to becoming the most sustainable holiday destination on the Northern NSW Coast! Green Heroes is proud to be working with managers Brooke and Luke to create an activity program that supports native flora and fauna species and encourages sustainable living! We look forward to sharing this progress with you soon.





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# HOMES FOR HOMES WITH RBR



The real estate agent with a REAL difference! We are thrilled to collaborate with Gavin Keith from RBR Property Consultants in Coolangatta and Habi-tec Arboricultural Innovations on the Homes for Homes project. Every property Gavin sells = one good quality home for wildlife.



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# NATURALLY GC WORKSHOPS



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**GOLDCOAST.**

Noah, Ruby and Suzi run our Green Heroes Workshops via the Gold Coast City Councils Naturally GC Program. At present, Green Heroes offers the following workshops on a regular basis including Wildlife First Aid, A pop-up Wildlife Hospital (role play), Who Lives in a Hollow and Mandalas from Nature. We are also proud to announce that Noah and Ruby are the Naturally GC Youth Ambassadors for 2021







# PROJECT TIMELINE

TASK	START DATE	END DATE
<b>POUCHES FOR JOEYS</b> CONNECTING COMMUNITY TO WILDLIFE IN NEED	DEC 2019	DECEMBER 2020
<b>WILDLIFE ADOPTION PROGRAM</b> CONNECTING CLASSROOMS TO CARERS	JAN 2020	ONGOING
<b>WILD DEFENDERS CLUB</b> TAKING ACTION TO PROTECT LOCAL NATIVE SPECIES AND HABITATS	NOV 2019	LAUNCHED BY GOLD COAST CITY COUNCIL JULY 2020
<b>WILDLIFE RESCUE 101 FILM SERIES</b> CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT IN WILDLIFE FIRST AID	AUGUST 2020	MARCH 2021
<b>SHARING PLANET EARTH (UPGRADE)</b>  PRODUCTION OF ONLINE RESOURCES FOR WILDLIFE CONSERVATION IN SCHOOLS	FEB 2021	NOV 2021



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TASK	START DATE	END DATE
<b>SWELL SCULPTURE FESTIVAL</b> HOLLOW BY NATURE	DEC 2020	SEPTEMBER 2021
<b>HERON ISLAND JUNIOR RANGERS</b> JUNIOR RANGERS CONSERVATION PROGRAM	APRIL 2021	NOV 2021
<b>NORTH COAST HOLIDAY PARKS</b> ACTION PROGRAM FOR SUSTAINABILITY AND CONSERVATION	MARCH 2021	NOV 2021
<b>HOMES FOR HOMES</b> HOMES FOR NATIVE WILDLIFE	NOV 2020	ONGOING
<b>NATURALLY GC WORKSHOP</b> ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION	NOV 2019	ONGOING



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# IN CONCLUSION



Since the commencement of Green Heroes in February 2016, the organisation has received overwhelming community support. Families accept that children have inherited an enormous environmental burden from previous generations. Green Heroes sheds a positive and proactive light on many environmental issues, gently guiding children into a love of our precious planet and a brighter hope for the future. Green Heroes has a unique focus as an organisation devoted to involving the community in conservation projects relevant to children and young people.

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# STAFF & TEAM MEMBERS

(SOME OF) THE PEOPLE BEHIND THE PROJECTS



**SARAH JANTOS**  
FOUNDER/ DIRECTOR/  
WILDLIFE CARER



**SARAH BARNES**  
DIRECTOR/ PROGRAM  
DEVELOPER/ WRITER



**LEE ANN GROHN**  
DIRECTOR/ PROJECT  
MANAGER



**MATT BARWICK**  
FILM/ PHOTOGRAPHY



**SUZI LUCAS**  
ART FOR ENVIRONMENT



**RUBY JAY**  
YOUTH AMBASSADOR



**NOAH JAY**  
YOUTH AMBASSADOR



**CHARLIE C**  
JUNIOR AMBASSADOR

As a non-profit entity we rely on philanthropic interest, grants and community support. We give our energy and expertise pro bono because we

believe passionately in what we do. We sincerely thank you for taking the time review this report and look forward to collaborating with your organisation.



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# SPONSORS AND PARTNERS

